

REMARKS

Claims 7, 9, 11-12 and 14-15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 6 has been amended to recite the limitations of former claim 7. Claim 8 has been amended to add a period at the end of the claim.

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendment presents no new issues or new matter and places this case in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is requested.

I. The Rejection of Claims 6-15 under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 6-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Clausen et al. WO 98/26057 (hereinafter "Clausen") in view of Burdge et al., British J. Nutrition, 84, 781-787 (2000) (hereinafter "Burdge") and Helmy and Hack, J. Planar Chromatography, 8, 369-373 (1995) (hereinafter "Helmy"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants' amended claims are directed to methods of selecting a lipolytic enzyme for use as a baking additive, comprising a) incubating at least one lipolytic enzyme with N-acyl phosphatidyl ethanolamine (APE) or N-acyl lysophosphatidyl ethanolamine (ALPE), b) detecting hydrolysis of an ester bond in the APE or ALPE, c) incubating the at least one lipolytic enzyme with phosphatidyl choline (PC), d) detecting hydrolysis of an ester bond in the PC, and e) selecting a lipolytic enzyme which has a higher hydrolytic activity on ester bonds in the APE or ALPE than on ester bonds in the PC.

Clausen discloses phospholipases, but nowhere does Clausen teach or suggest methods of selecting a lipolytic enzyme comprising the methods of Applicants' claims. Nor do Burdge or Helmy cure this defect. As the Examiner states, Burdge purports to teach a method for separation of phosphatidylcholine, triacylglycerol, non-esterified fatty acids and cholesterol esters from plasma by solid-phase extraction. Helmy purports to teach the use of thin layer chromatography to assess endogenous phospholipase A capabilities in vitro. Thus, none of Clausen, Burdge or Helmy, either alone or in combination, teach or suggest Applicants' claimed methods of selecting a lipolytic enzyme.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the amended claims overcome this rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance. Early action to that end is respectfully requested. The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this amendment or application.

Should any additional fees be due, please charge deposit account no. 50-1701 of Novozymes North America Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

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